

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for establishing secure date and time information about a user equipment (UE) in relation to forwarding time-based Digital Rights Management-protected (DRM-protected) data to the UE, the method comprising:

retrieving a secure time reference from a secure time source; and

determining a secure time offset representative of a time difference between the secure time reference and a UE time value associated with the UE.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the secure date and time information for the UE is a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

maintaining an update indicator to indicate whether the secure time offset should be updated.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the steps of retrieving and determining are performed dependent on a value of the update indicator.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining when the UE time value is changed by an application; and

updating the secure time offset to compensate for the UE time value change.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of updating comprises:

determining an updated secure time offset representative of a time difference between a UE time value before the change and a UE time value after the change; and
updating the secure time offset so a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value after the change is equal to a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value before the change.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the UE is a mobile terminal.

8. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

when the UE is requesting the receipt of the time-based DRM-protected data,

determining whether the update indicator value indicates that the secure time offset needs updating; and

making the time-based DRM-protected data available to the UE based on the update indicator value, the secure date and time information, and usage rights associated with the time-based DRM-protected data.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of making the time-based DRM-protected data available comprises:

if the update indicator value indicates that the secure time offset is updated, making the time-based DRM-protected data available to the UE only when the secure date and time information complies with time parameters included in the usage rights associated with the time-based DRM-protected data.

10. A method for maintaining secure date and time information about a UE that maintains its own UE time value, the method comprising:

determining when the UE time value is changed by an application; and

updating a secure time offset associated with the UE to compensate for the UE time value change.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of updating comprises:

determining an updated secure time offset representative of a time difference between a UE time value before the change and a UE time value after the change; and

updating the secure time offset so a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value after the change is equal to a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value before the change.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the secure date and time information is maintained in relation to forwarding time-based DRM-protected data to the UE.

13. A system for establishing secure date and time information about a UE in relation to forwarding time-based DRM-protected data to the UE, the system comprising:

logic that retrieves a secure time reference from a secure time source; and

logic that determines a secure time offset representative of a time difference between the secure time reference and a UE time value associated with the UE.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the secure date and time information for the UE is a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value.

15. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

logic that maintains an update indicator to indicate whether the secure time offset should be updated.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the logic retrieves and determines dependent on a value of the update indicator.

17. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

logic that determines when the UE time value is changed by an application; and
logic that updates the secure time offset to compensate for the UE time value change.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the logic that updates comprises:

logic that determines an updated secure time offset representative of a time difference between a UE time value before the change and a UE time value after the change; and

logic that updates the secure time offset so a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value after the change is equal to a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value before the change.

19. The system of claim 13, wherein the UE is a mobile terminal.

20. The system of claim 15, further comprising:

logic that, when the UE is requesting the receipt of the time-based DRM-protected data,

determines whether the update indicator value indicates that the secure time offset needs updating; and

makes the time-based DRM-protected data available to the UE based on the update indicator value, the secure date and time information, and usage rights associated with the time-based DRM-protected data.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein the logic that makes the time-based DRM-protected data available comprises:

logic that, if the update indicator value indicates that the secure time offset is updated, makes the time-based DRM-protected data available to the UE only when the secure date and time information complies with time parameters included in the usage rights associated with the time-based DRM-protected data.

22. A UE that maintains secure date and time information, the UE comprising:

logic that maintains a UE time value;

logic that determines when the UE time value is changed by an application; and

logic that updates a secure time offset associated with the UE to compensate for the UE time value change.

23. The UE of claim 22, wherein the logic that updates comprises:

logic that determines an updated secure time offset representative of a time difference between a UE time value before the change and a UE time value after the change; and

logic that updates the secure time offset so a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value after the change is equal to a sum of the secure time offset and the UE time value before the change.

24. The UE of claim 22, wherein the secure date and time information is maintained in relation to forwarding time-based DRM-protected data to the UE.